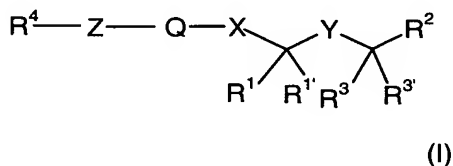


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Compounds of formula (I):



wherein:

Q represents an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aryl or heteroaryl ring;
X represents O, S, NR⁵ or CR⁶R⁷;
Y represents CHOH, CHSH, NOR⁸, CNR⁸ or CNOR⁸;
Z represents a bond, CR¹⁰R¹¹, O, S, SO, SO₂, NR¹⁰, OCR¹⁰R¹¹, CR¹⁰R¹¹O or Z,
R⁴ and Q together form an optionally substituted fused tricyclic group;
R¹, R^{1'}, R³ and R^{3'} each independently represents H, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₁₋₄ alkylaryl;
R² represents CO₂R⁸, CONR⁵OR⁹ or NR⁵COR⁹;
R⁴ represents optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aryl or heteroaryl;
R⁵ represents H or C₁₋₃ alkyl;
R⁶ and R⁷ each independently represents H, C₁₋₃ alkyl or halo;
R⁸ represents H or C₁₋₂ alkyl;
R⁹ represents H or C₁₋₃ alkyl;
R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each independently represents H, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₁₋₄ alkylaryl;
and physiologically functional derivatives thereof, processes for their preparation, pharmaceutical formulations containing them and their use as inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinase enzymes (MMPs) are described.